

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Patent Application**

Applicant(s): B.M. Jakobsson et al.  
Case: EMC-06-463  
Serial No.: 10/631,989  
Filing Date: July 31, 2003  
Group: 2437  
Examiner: Tamara Teslovich

Title: Method and Apparatus for Graph-Based Partition  
of Cryptographic Functionality

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COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following remarks are submitted in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance included in the Notice of Allowability dated April 2, 2010 in the above-identified application.

REMARKS

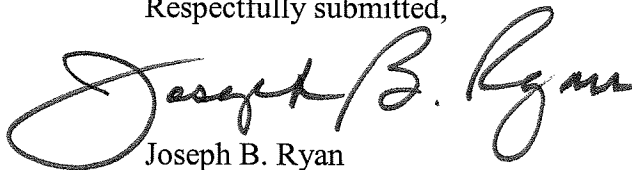
Applicants have reviewed the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance (hereinafter "Statement") given on pages 9-11 of the April 2, 2010 Notice of Allowability.

The Examiner asserts that U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0094088 (hereinafter "Okaue") discloses the limitations of the independent claims as presented prior to the Examiner's Amendment. Applicants respectfully disagree with this assertion, and instead maintain that the claims as presented prior to the Examiner's Amendment were patentable over Okaue for at least the reasons identified by Applicants in the Appeal Brief dated January 4, 2010. To the extent that the Statement attempts to characterize Okaue in a manner inconsistent with prior responses filed by Applicants, the Statement is respectfully traversed.

In view of the traversal presented in the aforementioned Appeal Brief, Applicants respectfully assert that the Examiner's Amendment was not necessitated by unpatentability over Okaue but rather was agreed to solely in order to expedite allowance by conforming to the subjective preferences of the Examiner. Applicants expressly maintain the right to pursue claims similar to those presented prior to the Examiner's Amendment in one or more continuing applications.

Applicants respectfully request that the above comments be made of record and placed into the application file pursuant to 37 CFR 1.104(e).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph B. Ryan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joseph" being more prominent and the last name "Ryan" following in a similar style.

Date: April 7, 2010

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